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Is Open Access an Answer for Access to Justice?

Open Access to Primary Legal Materials and their Impact on Access to Justice in Texas

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(Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition)

Open Access is the “free, immediate, online availability of research articles coupled with the rights to use these articles fully in the digital environment. Open Access ensures that anyone can access and use these results—to turn ideas into industries and breakthroughs into better lives.”

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Access to Justice

Access to Justice “describes the ability of any person, regardless of income, to use the legal system to advocate for themselves and their interests.”



Ignorance of the law is no excuse.



Thompson v. State

(26 Tex. App. 94,
Texas Court of Appeals, 1888)

We the People



UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION
AMENDMENT X
BILL OF RIGHTS

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.

Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act (UELMA)



Uniform Law Commission



UELMA Basics

Electronic legal material that has been designated official by the state government must be:

- *Capable of being authenticated;*
- *Preserved; and*
- *Permanently accessible*









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Law.Gov: A Proposed Distributed Repository of All Primary Legal Materials of the United States



